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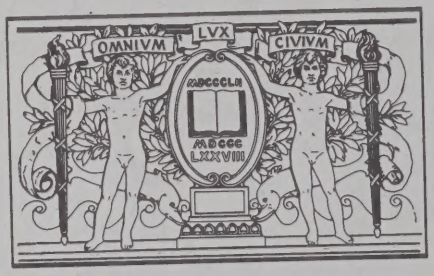

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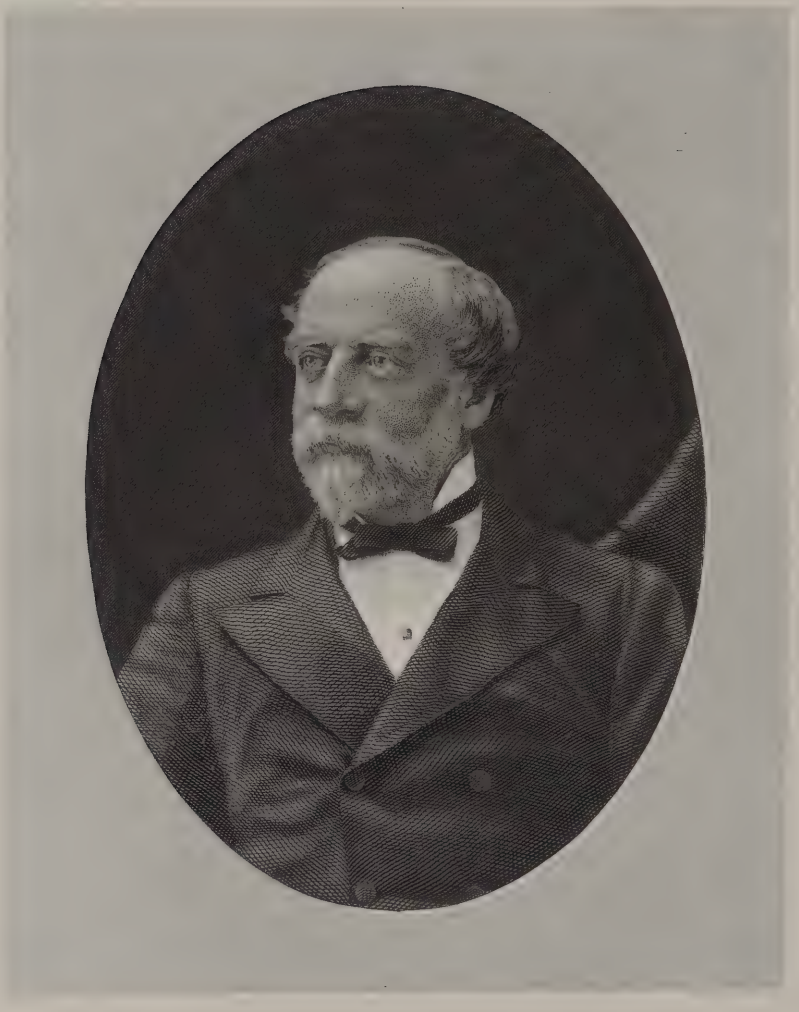
MEMORIAL

OF

ALEXANDER HAMILTON RICE



Alex. H. Rice.

A

MEMORIAL

OF

ALEXANDER HAMILTON RICE

FROM THE

CITY OF BOSTON

BOSTON
PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE CITY COUNCIL
MDCCCXCVI

PRESS OF

Rockwell and Churchill

BOSTON

CITY OF BOSTON.

In Board of Aldermen, December 23, 1895.

Ordered, That the Clerk of Committees, under the direction of the Committee on Printing, be directed to prepare and publish an edition of one thousand copies of a volume containing an account of the memorial services in honor of Alexander H. Rice; the expense attending the same to be charged to the appropriation for City Council, Incidental Expenses.

Passed. Sent down for concurrence. December 26, came up concurred. Approved by the Mayor, December 30, 1895.

A true copy.

Attest:

JOHN M. GALVIN,
City Clerk.

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DEATH OF ALEXANDER H. RICE

DEATH OF ALEXANDER H. RICE.

The death of Alexander Hamilton Rice occurred at The Longwood, Melrose, at eighteen minutes past twelve o'clock in the afternoon of the twenty-second day of July, 1895.

He had been in poor health for some time, but about a week previous to his death he experienced a slight shock of paralysis, — the third shock of the kind from which he had suffered. From that time there was no improvement in his condition, and his death took place as above stated.

On account of his prominence in public life, and as a citizen of Boston, it was not surprising that his death should have occasioned a wide-spread feeling of regret in our community and throughout the Commonwealth, and, in recognition of the popular feeling regarding the sad event, His Honor Mayor Curtis immediately issued a call to the two branches of the City Council to assemble in their respective chambers and take such action as might be appropriate and proper.

ACTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

ACTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL.

CITY OF BOSTON.

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL.

TUESDAY, July 23, 1895.

Meeting of both branches of the City Council, in their respective chambers, City Hall, at 12 M., to take action in regard to the death of Hon. ALEXANDER H. RICE.

The meeting was held pursuant to the following call:

CITY OF BOSTON, OFFICE OF THE MAYOR,
CITY HALL, July 22, 1895.

To the Honorable the City Council:

GENTLEMEN: It is my sad duty to announce the death of Hon. ALEXANDER H. RICE, who served with distinction as Governor of Massachusetts in 1876, 1877, and 1878, as a member of Congress, and as Mayor of Boston in 1856 and 1857.

You are hereby requested to assemble in your respective chambers on Tuesday, July 23, 1895, at 12 o'clock M., for the purpose of taking such action as you may deem appropriate to express the deep regard which the people of Boston had for him as Chief Magistrate of the Commonwealth, as a member of Congress, as Mayor of this city, and as a private citizen.

Yours respectfully,

ALPHEUS SANFORD,
Acting Mayor.

THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

The Board of Aldermen met in the Aldermanic Chamber at 12 M., Chairman Sanford presiding.

The call for the meeting was read and sent down.

Alderman ALLEN said:

Mr. Chairman, we are called together to pay a tribute of respect, as representatives of the City of Boston, to the memory of ALEXANDER H. RICE, an honorable and distinguished gentleman. He was a business man, but as such was willing to devote a portion of his time to the good of his city, his state, and country. His first public position, so far as I know, was as a member of the Common Council, of which he was afterwards president. He was afterwards Mayor of the city of Boston, and those who are familiar with his works and acts during his administration speak only in praise of him.

It is not much to say of a man that he is honest — I am aware of that — but that he is honest and able and broad-minded and entirely conscientious is something which we can say of ex-Governor RICE. His administration of the city business met the approval of all classes interested in the welfare of the city. Soon after retiring he was called to a still broader field of service in the Congress of the United States.

It is rare indeed that a chief executive of the State of Massachusetts has so few enemies and conducts his

office with so much dignity and ability, and has such a delightful personality. Governor RICE was dignified, but he was not harsh, and he was not cold. He was a man of the people, and yet he was a man who was a leader of the people.

We need not dwell upon his gifts of oratory; we need not make any extended remarks upon his capabilities and the manner in which he filled the various offices he has held.

He has lived beyond the allotted space of life, has been a delight to those who met him officially or personally, has delighted all those within the sound of his voice on more public occasions, probably, than any man of the time, has been called upon while in office to extend welcomes and to pronounce eulogies and deliver orations; and from beginning to end, so far as I know, or have ever heard, has acquitted himself most honorably and ably.

The last time I remember of having met ex-Governor RICE was at a very recent meeting of the Charitable Mechanics' Association. He was not as strong or as sturdy as of old, but he had the same charming manner, and delightful way of speaking to an individual or to an audience, and I remember distinctly listening to his remarks with great interest, and was much surprised that a person of his age, was able to deliver so delightful an address to an assemblage. I do not know whether he made any public address after that, but am very glad I was able to listen to him so near the time of his last words. I wish to offer a set of resolutions, which I will ask the clerk to read.

Alderman ALLEN offered the following:

Resolved, That the members of the City Council of Boston have learned with sorrow and regret of the death of ALEXANDER H. RICE, formerly Mayor of our city, and one of our well-known and valued citizens.

Resolved, That we accord to ALEXANDER H. RICE a conspicuous place among the distinguished men who have occupied the chair of chief magistrate of our city. Possessing marked business sagacity, brilliant scholarly and oratorical attainments, and high character, he furnishes a notable example of a true citizen and public official.

Throughout his long public career, and in every position in which he was placed by the choice of his fellow-citizens, he discharged his duties with honor and credit, and made himself worthy of our praise and admiration.

Resolved, That we extend our heartfelt sympathy to the sorrowing family of the deceased in this their hour of bereavement; and it is hereby

Ordered, That the city clerk be requested to forward to them a copy of these resolutions.

Passed, under a suspension of the rules, by a unanimous rising vote. Sent down for concurrence.

Alderman DEVER offered an order:

That a joint special committee, to consist of three members of the Board of Aldermen, with such as the Common Council may join, be appointed to attend the

funeral of the late ALEXANDER H. RICE, formerly Governor of Massachusetts and Mayor of the City of Boston; and that said committee be authorized to procure a suitable floral tribute; all expenses incurred by said committee to be charged to the Contingent Fund, Joint Committees.

Passed, and the Chairman appointed as said Committee on the part of the Board Aldermen DEVER, BRYANT, and DYAR. Sent down for concurrence.

Alderman FOLSOM offered an order:

That the city messenger be instructed to cause the flag to be displayed at half-mast on City Hall until after the funeral of the late ALEXANDER H. RICE.

Passed. Sent down for concurrence.
Adjourned.

THE COMMON COUNCIL.

The members of the Common Council met in the Council Chamber at 12 M., President O'BRIEN in the chair and a quorum present.

The Clerk read the call for the meeting, which was placed on file.

The following resolves and order were received from the Board of Aldermen:

Resolved, That the members of the City Council of Boston have learned with sorrow and regret of the

death of ALEXANDER H. RICE, formerly Mayor of our city, and one of our well-known and valued citizens.

Resolved, That we accord to ALEXANDER H. RICE a conspicuous place among the distinguished men who have occupied the chair of chief magistrate of our city. Possessing marked business sagacity, brilliant scholarly and oratorical attainments, and high character, he furnishes a notable example of a true citizen and public official.

Throughout his long public career, and in every position in which he was placed by the choice of his fellow-citizens, he discharged his duties with honor and credit, and made himself worthy of our praise and admiration.

Resolved, That we extend our heartfelt sympathy to the sorrowing family of the deceased in this their hour of bereavement; and it is hereby

Ordered, That the city clerk be requested to forward to them a copy of these resolutions.

The question came on giving the resolutions and order a second reading.

Mr. O'CALLAGHAN, of Ward 3, said:

Mr. President, it is not difficult for one on this side of the Chamber to pay tribute to the good man whose memory we are called together to honor. Though always identified with the Republican party, anybody can say of him, in all his public life, he was first a man of the people. It was in this body that

ex-Governor RICE began a career in politics that rounded out so beautifully and with so much satisfaction to all the people of the Commonwealth, and because of this it is doubly fitting that this body should honor his memory. He was first elected to this body in 1853, and the following year he was chosen president. Membership here then, as now, was a comparatively small honor, but Mr. RICE did not look upon it lightly. He accepted the duties and responsibilities here with the same thoughts of their importance that afterward characterized his acceptance of the more responsible positions of Mayor, member of Congress, and Governor of the Commonwealth.

It is difficult to say which of the positions in public life he filled most acceptably. As mayor of this city he was unusually successful. Many of the best of our public improvements were either begun or completed during his term, and his reforms were many and of a kind that were for the public good. The greatest of these was perhaps the beginning of the free City Hospital and the completion of the Public Library building. There are no departments of the city to-day that our citizens can point to with greater pride, and they are, in truth, monuments to the judgment, progressiveness, and energy of Mr. RICE.

He served in Congress during the trying days of the Civil War, and here again he won distinction. Apropos of his election to Congress it would not perhaps be out of place to say, as an indication of the love of the people of Boston for him, regardless of party, that he represented a district during his several terms

wherein his party was in the minority. His most responsible duties as a member of Congress were as Chairman of the Committee on Naval Affairs, and, though the exigencies of the war made the duties particularly trying, he proved himself equal to the work in hand.

I will not enter into the details of his brilliant services as Governor of the Commonwealth. That doubtless will be attended to by some one more capable at some future time. It was a proud privilege for the Commonwealth that it had Mr. Rice for Governor during the Centennial celebration, not only because of the brilliant qualities of the Governor himself, but also for the interest he showed in that memorable event and the pride he took in the Massachusetts display.

Ex-Governor Rice was adored in private life. His interest in public affairs did not cease with his retirement from public office. He continued his interest in all movements that had for their purpose the public good. Nothing was more pleasing to him than the rapid growth of Boston. He loved the city, and he did his part to make her one of the leading municipalities of the land.

Mr. Conry, of Ward 2, said:

Mr. President, we are assembled here this afternoon for a purpose far removed from that which is our customary habit. We have been requested to assemble here to take action appropriate to indicate the feelings of the people of Boston toward the honored dead.

In the olden times, when a warrior distinguished for

his valor or a statesman renowned for his wisdom died, it was customary for some one with cultivated intellect and polished eloquence to recount the deeds of heroism achieved by the warrior or the acts of statesmanship performed by the statesman. We, the members of the Common Council, meet here this afternoon, proud of our position when we recall the fact that Alexander H. Rice served in this body in 1853, and that in 1854 he was reëlected and served as president; and when we also recall that, with no other training in municipal affairs than the two years' service which he had in the Common Council, he was adjudged competent to serve and was elected Mayor in 1856. In 1857, after his one year's service as Mayor, he was reëlected by a practically unanimous vote.

He was elected to the 36th Congress, and here he rendered able service to his country in a manner that reflected great credit upon the old Commonwealth. He served his country well, representing Massachusetts with honor and dignity in the way that we who are growing up delight to remember.

He was elected Governor in 1876; and although I never had the pleasure of a personal acquaintance with him, nevertheless one action of his which came to my notice led me to believe that he was blessed with a generous heart. A young man growing up had the misfortune to become associated with persons of evil habits, and was led astray, and in an evil moment violated the statutes of the Commonwealth. He was committed to prison; but after a year's stay in that institution the facts were brought to the attention of

Governor Rice, and the man's sentence was commuted, the pardon being granted. That act alone is sufficient to impress upon my mind the value of a large heart in a public official.

I might say in closing that we, the members of the Common Council, have reason to feel proud of the experience which he derived in this body, because when he was elected Mayor he was, with a single exception, the youngest man ever elected to that office from the incorporation of the city in 1822 to 1890. He was a man of whom Massachusetts, and Boston in particular, has every reason to feel proud; and many of the men in public life to-day could with profit to themselves emulate the example of Hon. Alexander Hamilton Rice.

Mr. Callahan, of Ward 12, said:

Mr. President, it was my purpose to have simply listened to the words of praise spoken by others in honor of this distinguished gentleman, for I saw there were others who could perform this duty as well, if not better, than myself; but, sir, I feel that I must say a few words in response to the pressure of my thoughts.

I feel, sir, that upon this occasion we are called upon to mourn the loss of a magnanimous, broad-minded, good-hearted, loyal citizen of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. It seems to us deplorable that in the course of human events, through the divine wisdom of God, we are obliged, in mute submission to His will,

to accept the inevitable in death; but I want to say here, sir, that it seems particularly deplorable in these trying times there should be taken from us one who was characterized, as I said before, by broad-mindedness and great generosity — a man who always took occasion to implore divine help upon all his works; a man who was proud and ready at all times to enjoy the prerogative of standing in the public highway, *ex officio*, and saluting the cohorts of his fellow-citizens of any class or kind who saw fit to go forth in celebration. I have, sir, within my limited memory, occasion to remember kindly and favorably these virtues in the Commonwealth's honored dead.

I would be glad, sir, if I were as able to speak words of eulogium of the character of the subject of this meeting as those who have preceded me; but I do not feel that I am, and in order to reflect the character of the gentleman, I hope you will permit me to read to you an extract from the inaugural address of the ex-Governor of Massachusetts delivered in 1857, then Mayor of Boston, which I think will in some degree give you an idea, even though I should only read one paragraph, that he had well earned the honor of being considered in his day the orator of the Athens of America, to say nothing of probably a broader territory and field. In his inaugural address in 1857 he used the following language:

"It will not be deemed inappropriate that this occasion be improved to express my grateful and profound obligation to my fellow-citizens for the distinguished favor renewedly received at their hands; and my

thanks for the flattering approval of the policy and results of the past year's labors, which they have manifested by returning with such unanimity to these halls so many of those who divided with me their responsibility and toil. Although the man who cherishes a just sense of his obligations will not be deterred from the independent performance of his duty, as he understands it, by the fear of popular disapproval, yet there is no reward more grateful to its recipient, and scarcely a higher evidence of liberality of mind in the community which bestows it, than the exercise of an unprejudiced judgment in support of the motives and actions of men, either in public or private life. The favor which I have received in this connection will be cherished as long as life and memory shall last; and I add to this tribute of my thanks, the assurance that whatever abilities I possess will be faithfully devoted to the promotion of the best interests of my fellow-citizens, without prejudice and without partiality."

Suffice it to say that I believe it can be well seen from this little extract that Alexander Hamilton Rice was a man of courage and conviction; that he was a man who was ready to put his right foot forward, and who, when he saw his way clearly, went ahead regardless of public opinion or prejudice, private or otherwise. I believe, sir, that we are here to mourn the loss of one who, as has been well said, is worthy of emulation by the youth of the day.

After extending my personal sympathy, through you, to his bereaved family, I have also to say, sir, that the city of Boston, as a municipality, has much to

mourn for in the loss of so great and distinguished a citizen, and one who, by his example and his acts, has left us a fitting book from which to read as a guide to our actions in future life. I hope, sir, and shall fervently pray, that he will receive the reward of merit which is due him, — life everlasting.

The resolutions and order were read a second time and passed in concurrence by a unanimous rising vote.

The two following orders were also received from the Board of Aldermen:

Ordered, That a joint special committee, to consist of three members of the Board of Aldermen, with such of the Common Council as may join, be appointed to attend the funeral of the late ALEXANDER H. RICE, formerly Governor of Massachusetts and Mayor of the City of Boston; and that said committee be authorized to procure a suitable floral tribute; all expenses incurred by said committee to be charged to the Contingent Fund, Joint Committees.

Passed in concurrence, and the President appointed as the committee on the part of the Council Messrs. O'BRIEN, of Ward 6; CROCKER, of Ward 11; O'CALLAGHAN, of Ward 3; CONRY, of Ward 2; and ANDREWS, of Ward 21.

Ordered, That the city messenger be instructed to cause the flag to be displayed at half-mast on City Hall until after the funeral of the late ALEXANDER H. RICE.

Passed in concurrence.

Adjourned, on motion of Mr. Wood, of Ward 23, at 12.40 P.M.

On the third of September, 1895, the following order was introduced in the Board of Aldermen by Alderman Horace G. Allen, and unanimously adopted, namely:

Ordered, That a joint committee, to consist of three members of the Board of Aldermen, with such as the Common Council may join, be appointed to arrange for the delivery of a eulogy on the life and public services of the late Hon. Alexander H. Rice, before the City Government and the citizens of Boston; the expense attending the same to be charged to the appropriation for City Council, Incidental Expenses.

The order was passed in concurrence by the Common Council on September 19, and approved by the Mayor September 23.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

MEMORIAL SERVICES.

The Committee of Arrangements for the Memorial Services entered upon their duties soon after their appointment. They were fortunate in securing ex-Governor John D. Long to pronounce the eulogy, — a gentleman peculiarly well fitted for the purpose on account of his scholarly attainments and long and intimate acquaintance with Mr. Rice. The Rev. Minot J. Savage accepted an invitation to prepare a poem for the occasion, and the Rev. Leighton Parks, the pastor of Emmanuel Church, which Mr. Rice attended for many years, was selected to officiate as chaplain. Music Hall was engaged for the occasion, and Tuesday, December third, was the date fixed upon for the services.

Invitations were sent to the City Council and city officials, His Excellency the Governor and staff, His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, the Executive Council, heads of State departments, members of the Legislature from Boston, the judiciary; also ex-Mayors of Boston, members of Congress from Massachusetts, representatives of the press, members of the Commercial Club, and Board of Trade Association.

Music was furnished by the Herbert Johnson Quintet, assisted by Mr. Joseph L. White.

The services began at eight o'clock, and at the appointed time a large audience was assembled which nearly filled the hall.

The opening hymn, "My Faith Looks up to Thee," was sung, and Alderman Horace G. Allen, chairman of the committee, then announced that His Honor Mayor Curtis would preside. Mayor Curtis was greeted with applause and made the following introductory remarks:

REMARKS OF MAYOR CURTIS.

Ladies and Gentlemen, — We have assembled this evening to pay a tribute of respect to the memory of one of our most prominent citizens. He received honors that fall to the lot of few men, serving with distinction as Mayor of Boston, Governor of Massachusetts, and member of Congress from this State.

But it is not alone as our honored representative in city, state, and national governments that we cherish his memory. We remember the sterling qualities of his character, and there must be many persons here to-night who share with me the feeling of a personal loss, for by the death of Alexander H. Rice we lost not only a distinguished statesman and public-spirited man, but a loyal and steadfast friend.

I will ask the Rev. Leighton Parks to invoke the divine blessing.

PRAYER BY REV. LEIGHTON PARKS.

Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, who hast taught us to make prayers and supplications and to give thanks for all men, we beseech Thee to receive these our prayers which we offer unto Thy Divine Majesty, beseeching Thee to inspire continually the

Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord, and grant that all those who do confess Thy Holy Name may agree in the truth of Thy Holy Word and live in unity; and God Almighty we beseech Thee to direct and dispose the hearts of Thy servants, the President of the United States, the Senate, the Representatives in Congress assembled, the Governor of this Commonwealth, the Mayor of this city, and all others in authority, that they, remembering the solemn trust committed unto them by Thy people, may above all things seek Thy honor and glory, and that we and all the people, duly considering the noble purpose of this Republic, may strive to have realized the Kingdom of the Son of Man on earth to our prayers. O God, we join our unfeigned thanks for the peace and prosperity, for the freedom and happiness, of this land and of this city; and we bless Thee for the goodly company of men and women who have dwelt here and have given up their lives to Thy service, and who, having served faithfully the cause of truth and peace, justice and loving kindness, in their day and generation, have entered upon their rest in the eternal city; and especially do we remember on this night and praise Thy Holy Name for the good example in church and state of Thy servant, Alexander Hamilton Rice, who was faithful unto both, and now is given the crown of life. O God, Thou art a most strong tower to all those who put their trust in Thee. As Thou hast been with our fathers, be Thou with us and with our children from generation to generation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

At the close of the prayer the song "Faithful Friends" was sung by Mr. White.

The Rev. Minot J. Savage then read the following poem which was written by him for the occasion:

POEM.

One, two — who knows? — three hundred thousand years,
Life climbed earth's pathway wet with blood and tears,
Ere history awoke, and with her pen
Wrote down the mystic fact that men were men.
Th' advance was slow, as slow the brute gave way,
And in men's eyes there dawned the human day.
One task was set the race the ages through;
Defeated oft, they still the task pursue.
Of all man's strivings and of all his thought,
This task, the last, the highest, grandest wrought,
Was then achieved when first the goal he saw
Of ordered freedom, liberty in law!

As old as time
A dream sublime
The human brain has haunted;
Above defeat
Hope's voice, strong, sweet,
A victory still has chanted.

A state all free,
But liberty
With order so united
That men might find
Earth fair and kind,
Wherein all wrong was righted.

But weary centuries passed, slaves toiling still,
The selfish pleasures of the few to fill;
While tyrannies, which blurred the vision fair,
Still trampled on the millions everywhere.
At last the pilgrims wandered o'er the sea,
And here set up the standard of the free.
The custom now reversed, earth's rule began
To slip from grasp of kings to that of man.
The great learned now that ruling was to swerve
From old self-service and the people serve.
Men now were honored not alone for might,
For might was spelled anew as right.
So grew the Bay State, whose ideals grand
Gave shape and promise to the whole wide land.
Then Washington and Lincoln set the pace
To which must march the forward-moving race.

When now a man arises who'd be great,
We'd see no genius only, high in state,
With shrewdness to exploit his place for pelf,
To climb and grasp its honors for himself;
But one who is ambitious to be just,
And holds his office as a public trust.
When such arise, like stars their honors shine
T' illume the truth that manhood is divine.

Republics then
Must bring forth men
Not such as despots nourish —
Men through whose zeal
The common weal
O'er all the land may flourish.

They who make real
This high ideal,
Their names the people cherish:

Themselves they give,
That right may live
And man's hope may not perish.

A man we loved, a merchant without stain,
Whose hands were smirched with no dishonest gain,
Who, when we lifted him to public place,
Still wore his virtues with his old-time grace.
In those dark years, when bravest men lost heart,
Among the great he played a trusted part,
High in the councils of the men who planned
The saving of the sore-distracted land.
Unwearied then, he gave what God gave him,
To see that on the flag no star grew dim,
Till, when war's dreadful cloud was overpast,
The perfect constellation shone at last.

Then did the State which loved him bid him wear
Her civic honors in her highest chair.
Not only once, not only twice, but thrice
The people loved to call him Governor Rice:
And ever did the high place find him still
The man of honor and of gentle will.
In serving private ends or public weal,
He held men to him "as with hoops of steel."
To high place did he rise, to lowly bend;
He knew both how to make and be a friend.
High over all in place of public power,
In business, on the street, in leisure hour,
In club or home, the closer one might scan,
The more was seen the perfect gentleman.

What monument wilt build, O city fair!
To him that serves thee as thy faithful son?
What honored chaplet would he choose to wear?
What seeks thy servant when his work is done?

The one reward the true man seeks is this —
The sense of service for the country wrought;
In face of wild applause or angry hiss,
He listens for the whispered, sacred "ought."

For our sakes and our children's we must see —
But not for theirs — that such are not forgot.
The place a noble man has trod should be
Aye kept and guarded as a hallowed spot.

So may we nourish citizens whose pride
Shall be to keep our 'scutcheons fair and bright,
Who, 'gainst all specious pleas of self, shall side
Forever with the noble, just and right.

The travail of the ages then shall bring
That hope to birth which, since the years began,
Has seen the day when manhood shall be king,
And earth the servant of the common man.

After the reading of the poem, the hymn "Going Home" was sung by the quintet.

His Honor Mayor Curtis then introduced ex-Governor John D. Long as the eulogist of the evening, who stepped forward and received a very cordial reception. Governor Long's address occupied about an hour in its delivery and was listened to with close attention by the audience. At its close the speaker received a round of applause which was hearty and long-continued.

The quintet then sang a closing hymn, and after the benediction was pronounced the audience dispersed.

THE EULOGY

BY

JOHN DAVIS LONG

At the time I was invited to deliver this eulogy I was so forced by professional engagements that I could not have done the work of preparing it without the aid of Mr. FRANK FOXCROFT, to whom I desire to acknowledge my great obligation therefor.

JOHN D. LONG.

THE EULOGY.

We are assembled in Music Hall, to which for a generation the sound of his voice and the kindliness of his face were familiar, to commemorate a distinguished citizen of Boston.

Though not born in it, yet through all his active life, from boyhood to old age, he was closely associated with its commercial and civic prosperity, and from beginning to end, exemplified that love of country which, while attaching one first of all to the place of habitation, is never indifferent to those larger interests that link the city with the state, and the state with the nation. Well-born and bred, liberally educated, at once genial and dignified, eloquent and discreet, a man of affairs and of scholarly tastes, a merchant and an orator, Alexander Hamilton Rice combined practical administrative business ability with talent for usefulness and prominence in public service, and thus easily won the honors and discharged the duties of high political station. Mayor of Boston, its representative in Congress, there holding the responsible place of chairman of the committee on Naval Affairs during the War of the Rebellion, and later Governor of Massachusetts, he was equal to each trust, discharged

its offices with elegance and fidelity, and earned the approval and respect of the people. To high character and thorough integrity he added a rare grace of manner, address, and speech, so that, whether in public capacity or as one with his fellow-citizens in the various and frequently occurring representative occasions of the city or the commonwealth, he was always an ornament and charm. A pattern in private life, a felicity in manners and conversation to every circle into which he came, consistent in religious faith, a patriotic and public-spirited citizen, lengthening years only adding to his courtesy and to his liberality of mind and heart, he was an honor to the merchant guild of Boston, of which he was at his death the most distinguished member, and to the city and commonwealth, of each of which for successive years he was the upright, efficient, and eloquent chief magistrate.

He was born in Newton, August 30, 1818. His early training was obtained in the schools and academies of his native town, and partly in his father's paper-mill, and in the employ of Boston business-houses. At the age of twenty-two, when he already saw opening before him the career of a Boston merchant, — then the goal of his ambition, — his desire for a larger culture led him to enter Union College, from which institution he was graduated in 1844 with the highest honors. Hesitating for a short time between business and the profession of the law, his choice was determined by the offer of a partnership in the firm in which, through various changes of name and organization, he continued a member to the end of his life.

At the age of thirty-three, he was elected to the school board of Boston; two years later, he was chosen to the common council, in which he served two terms, — the second year as its president; and from this office he was called to the mayoralty, being chosen in 1855, at the age of thirty-seven, as a citizens' candidate by a majority of about two thousand and reëlected the following year by a majority three times as large. This year of our Lord, 1895, is by no means, Mr. President, the first in which Boston has had a good mayor in a young man.

The Boston of forty years ago, when Mr. Rice was elected Mayor, was a very different city from the Boston of to-day. The population was less than one-third of that of the present city. The business section was confined within comparatively narrow boundaries. That part of Devonshire street which lies between Milk and Franklin streets was a narrow foot-path, bearing the impressive name of Odeon avenue, but more familiarly known to the public as Theatre alley. Such streets as Franklin, Summer, Arch, Hawley, and South, which are now important business thoroughfares, lined throughout with great stores and warehouses, were then occupied by dwelling-houses and gardens. The beautiful Back Bay section, now traversed by broad avenues, and covered with stately residences, public buildings, and temples of religious faith, was then, so much of it as lay west of the Public Garden, a pestiferous marsh, unsightly, and a menace to the public health. It was the distinction of Mr. Rice, not merely to have lived to witness the changes which transformed the Boston

of 1855 into the Boston of 1895, but to have taken the initiative in some of the most important of those changes. His was that far-sighted sagacity which enabled him to forecast the possibilities of the future, and to shape the policy of the city with reference to them. Street widenings and improvements, which cost but a few hundred thousand dollars, were then serious matters, not only because the municipal resources were far smaller than at the present time, but because, in the absence of legislation permitting the assessment of a part of the cost of such improvements upon the owners of the property benefited, the entire burden rested on the city treasury. But, in spite of the necessity of economy, which he fully appreciated, we find Mr. RICE, as Mayor, urging the widening of Devonshire street, and the opening up of Winthrop square and adjacent streets which then were but alleys, in order to provide an outlet for the trade then beginning to press southward, but up to that time arrested by what had seemed insuperable barriers.

We have the ancient authority of Solomon for the truth that "There is that scattereth and yet increaseth: and there is that withholdeth more than is meet and it tendeth to poverty." These wise words, spoken with reference to individual character, apply hardly less to public policy. In the administration of cities, there is a liberality which is the wisest economy, because it plants the seeds of future increase; and there is a prudence which tends to poverty, inasmuch as it involves a hopeless waste of opportunities. I know not where we should find the contrast between them more clearly

marked than in the first inaugural address of Mr. RICE as Mayor, in January, 1856. Not merely because it illustrates his own character and the policy which he endeavored to carry out, but because it enunciates principles which are still applicable to municipal government, I quote briefly from that portion of his address:

"In the affairs of this, as of every community," said Mr. RICE, "there are certain objects and interests which are purely incidental or empirical, and others which are permanent and certain; and the successful study and application of economy depend much upon discrimination at this point. The first of these classes of objects admits of the practice of the most rigorous and stringent pecuniary limitations consistent with a proper provision for immediate wants; and more than this is liable to leave monuments of folly behind it; while the latter class admits of the ampler scale which looks to the requirements of growth and progress; the governing principle in each case being respectively the same that guides the prudent man in the regulation of his current expenses and in the selection of his permanent investments. No folly can be greater than to provide for an age what may be superseded in a day; or to build for a day what should have compassed the wants of a generation."

It was during the administration of Mr. RICE as Mayor, and largely through his efforts, that the difficulties and controversies which had checked the development of the Back Bay section were adjusted, and acres of disease-breeding marsh converted into solid territory, to be covered with avenues and buildings

which are now the pride of the city. The passage on this subject in the inaugural address of Mr. RICE in 1857 so accurately forecasts the Back Bay of to-day that it might almost be taken for a contemporaneous description of it.

Mr. RICE anticipated the modern tendency toward the concentration of municipal authority by securing the consolidation of the boards of governors of public institutions, thereby terminating the friction which had previously existed, and achieving greater economy and efficiency. He effected a thorough reorganization of the police force; recommended the establishment of the City Hospital; secured the settlement of various long-pending claims and controversies; and showed tact, energy, and unusual executive ability in all his official duties.

Declining a renomination at the close of his second term, Mr. RICE purposed to devote himself exclusively to business; but he was unexpectedly nominated to Congress by the Republicans of the Third District, and was elected in November, 1858, although the opposing party had ordinarily a large majority. He represented the district for eight consecutive years, until he declined further service. His congressional career began just before the outbreak of the Civil War, continued through that time of storm and stress, and lapped over into the period of reconstruction which followed. Those were days when the country needed every type of patriot; and the business sagacity of Mr. RICE, his executive force, his knowledge of men and affairs, and his tireless and systematic industry, made his career of more value than that of some men of more showy

qualities who figured prominently on the floor. On occasion, he distinguished himself in debate. A noteworthy instance of his effectiveness as a speaker was his reply to an attack by the brilliant orator, Henry Winter Davis, of Maryland, upon the administration of the navy during the war period. But his most important service was rendered in committees, especially in the committee on Naval Affairs, of which he was for four years chairman.

As mutineers scuttle a ship before they leave it, the Southern-born men who were in the public service in 1860–1, and who only awaited the beginning of hostilities to cast in their fortunes with the confederacy, did their utmost to cripple the government before they resigned their commissions. They transferred to Southern arsenals and navy-yards a large portion of the national ordnance and stores. They so contrived that when the war broke out, many of our ships were scattered over the globe, and two-thirds of the vessels of the home squadron were in Southern ports. Only four small ships, carrying twenty-five guns all told, were at the disposal of the government when Mr. Lincoln took the oath of office and faced the stupendous onslaught of the Rebellion. Two hundred and fifty-nine naval officers, some of them commanders of gallantry and experience, went over to the enemy.

A new navy was to be created, equipped, officered, manned, and sustained. To furthering the efforts of the officers of the department, Mr. Rice devoted himself with unflagging zeal and industry. He made a patient study of naval questions at home and abroad, and

acquired such a mastery of his subject that the measures which he introduced had the confidence of his associates, and were usually adopted.

Mr. RICE served also upon the committee on the Pacific Railroads, and the committee on the District of Columbia. In addition to the work specially falling to the committees of which he was a member, he maintained an alert interest and bore an active part in the general business of congress. Not since the foundation of the government had questions so momentous pressed upon the national legislature. It was necessary to protect the nation against secret treachery as well as against the armed forces of the Rebellion; to create, almost out of nothing, the materials and munitions of war, — ships, cannon, fortifications, and stores, all on a colossal scale; to raise enormous sums of money and vast armies; to maintain the national credit; to keep a watchful eye upon foreign powers, whose smouldering hostility needed only provocation to flame into open war; to restrain the impatience and keep alive the courage of the people; and to secure the effective coöperation of states, which up to that time had been but loosely knit in a union of uncertain strength, but which were just realizing that they were a nation, engaged in a struggle the issue of which was life or death. To all the questions growing out of that gigantic conflict, Mr. RICE contributed in patriotic effort the best that was in him. As we honor the patriot soldiers of that great era, let us honor its patriot statesmen. Alike they stood for their country and its flag. On both alike the patriot Lincoln leaned.

An index to his character and indicative of the true courtesy of Mr. Rice was the habit which he formed of answering personally all the letters which he received. He used to say that any matter about which a constituent had written to him, trifling though it might seem, must be of importance to the writer, else he would not have written, and therefore it must deserve his attention. To a private secretary, he reasoned, all correspondents are alike; but even yes or no may be written differently by one who knows something of the person addressed. No doubt this habit of personal attention to his correspondence was one element in his popularity. It was also a factor in his usefulness. Governor Andrew paid him a tribute when he said that, if he was in a hurry about anything, and wanted an early reply, he wrote to Rice, the busiest man in the Massachusetts delegation, for he knew that from him he would get an answer by return mail.

After an interval of seven years devoted to business and social life, Mr. Rice was again called to assume the responsibilities of public office; this time as the chief magistrate of the Commonwealth. He was elected Governor, on the Republican ticket, in November, 1875, and was reëlected in 1876 and 1877.

When he entered upon the duties of the gubernatorial office in January, 1876, the most prominent question of state policy in the minds of the people was the regulation of the liquor traffic, — a question which, in one form or another, it would seem, that we are likely to have always with us. The attitude of Mr. Rice toward this question exposed him to some

criticism at the time. It should be possible, however, after the lapse of twenty years, for those among us who honestly differed from him rightly to understand his position. A local option law had been enacted in 1875, after a long contest. Mr. RICE took the ground that the law ought not to be disturbed until it had had an adequate trial. In his first address to the legislature he suggested one or two perfecting amendments which were enacted. But he interposed the executive veto upon bills which were intended to make radical changes in the law. In his first term, he returned, with strong expressions of disapproval, a bill which proposed to strike out the prohibition of open bars, and otherwise to weaken the law. In his second term, he returned, with an expression of disapproval equally strong, a bill of an opposite character, designed to impose upon the traffic restrictions which he regarded as impracticable. His course was not altogether satisfactory to either side, but it was in accord with the conviction which he had declared at the beginning, that, as the existing law, in his opinion, embodied the wishes of a large majority of the people, it ought to be retained without material change until its effect should be known.

At that time, the Hoosac Tunnel, together with forty miles of rather feebly constructed track, was the property of the state. One of the anomalous functions of the governor and council was the management of the tunnel and railroad, then just completed and put in operation. With the business sagacity which characterized his views of public affairs, Mr. RICE recognized

the incongruity of these relations. He vetoed a bill which aimed to perpetuate for seven years the toll-gate plan upon which the state at first operated the tunnel. In four different messages to the legislature he urged the necessity of relieving the executive department of those cares by placing the road under a corporate management, familiar with railroad business, and competent to conduct it properly with reference to connecting or competing lines. In substance, the plan which he outlined was that which was subsequently adopted.

Mr. RICE, as governor, took the initiative in a number of questions affecting the welfare of the state. He consummated the abolition of the useless office of coroner, and a reorganization of the militia. He repeatedly recommended generous aid to industrial art education, on the ground that the advancement of such education tends to the multiplication of new forms of industry, to the enlargement of the field of remunerative labor, and to the increase of wages. He recommended measures for the reorganization of the board of State Charities, and gave attention to the management of our charitable and reformatory institutions.

In his addresses to the legislature, Governor RICE occasionally adverted to national questions, always in a liberal and patriotic spirit. In 1878 he spoke impressively of the public faith, which was then menaced by measures before congress adverse to the resumption of specie payments, or unfair in their treatment of public creditors. "Massachusetts," he declared, "cannot be now indifferent to measures and influences which affect the honor and advancement of the nation, but will ever

be watchful of the manner in which the government is administered and its obligations fulfilled. Her people believe that the honor of the country cannot be preserved, nor its prosperity secured, by gains which come from broken promises; and they expect their representatives will, if need be, resist by all justifiable means the enactment of any laws which will not bear the test of impartial justice. In the payment of the debt created to save the nation when it reeled amid the conflicts of war, she desires that the promises which have formed the basis of the public credit shall be honestly and undeviatingly fulfilled. No sophistry in reasoning and no casuistry in morals should be allowed to obscure the plain demands of honest dealings with the public creditors, either as to time or character of payment of their dues." These were words fitting then, and they are fitting words now.

As a public speaker, Mr. RICE was both fluent and forcible. He was endowed with a retentive memory, which enabled him to enrich even extemporaneous addresses with illustrations drawn from a range of reading and experience. He was able to trust to the inspiration of the moment to an extent which many speakers would find hazardous, and some of his most effective addresses were made with limited preparation. Upon special occasions, when he had a theme wholly congenial, he was capable of reaching higher levels of eloquence. He was president of the great Peace Jubilee in Boston in 1869, with its orchestra of twelve hundred instruments, and its chorus of ten thousand voices, assembled to celebrate the end of civil strife, and gave the opening address.

He made appropriate and fitting addresses at the unveiling of the equestrian statue of Washington, the statue of Charles Sumner, and the statue of Franklin in front of the city hall. At the dedication of the public library building in January, 1858, it was his lot to be preceded by one great orator of national reputation, Edward Everett, and to be followed by another, Robert C. Winthrop. It was a difficult position, but he was equal to the occasion.

The requirements of public speaking, which are always somewhat exacting upon the governors of Massachusetts, were especially so during his first year in that office — the centennial year of the republic. But he met them gracefully, and his addresses of that year are marked by that true patriotism which is not content with glorifying the past, but seeks to comprehend its lessons, and to build upon the foundation of the fathers a structure at once adequate and enduring. Elected honorary chancellor of Union University in 1881, he delivered an oration which won high praise, on the appropriate theme "The Reciprocal Relations of Education and Enterprise." His last published address was his oration in the Marine Park, South Boston, on the 28th of June, 1893, at the dedication of the statue of Admiral Farragut, that bronzed old sea-god, whose statue by St. Gaudens in Madison square, in itself an epic, is the most living and eloquent work of art of its kind in the country. Governor Rice's last public speech was made after dinner at the centennial celebration of the Massachusetts Charitable Mechanics' Association, March 15, 1895.

Of the personal qualities of Mr. RICE none was more marked than his courtesy. His was not the affability of the candidate, to whom every man is a voter; but it was the genuine cordiality of a friendly man. There is a politeness which is a thin veneer of conventionality over a nature essentially selfish and arrogant; and there is another kind which springs from the heart, and is the expression of a true consideration for the rights, feelings, and prejudices of others. It was courtesy of this type which characterized Mr. RICE. He had a native dignity of manner; he enjoyed large opportunities of culture, and was for many years prominent in public life; but there was no one so humble or so ignorant as to fail to find readiest access, when he went to him upon any errand of business or charity. This unfailing courtesy toward all sorts and conditions of men sometimes caused him to be described as a "gentleman of the old school" — but why should we use a phrase which suggests that a quality so gentle and noble, and one which goes so far to sweeten life, is ever out of date? Certain it is, however, that his bearing and deportment recalled at once all that the imagination paints as courtly, affable, and dignified in all "good old time."

It was in part, perhaps, because of this quality of courtesy that Mr. RICE never obtruded his views needlessly upon those who differed from him. He had strong religious convictions, and was a devoted and useful member of the Episcopal communion, holding a large place and exerting a wide influence in the councils of that church; but he was broadly tolerant of all

divergencies of religious faith, and capable of appreciating the good in each. His political convictions were not less pronounced, and he never lacked the courage to carry them out in his votes and acts, for he was a brave man. Yet he expressed them with moderation, and it was said of his congressional career, wittingly and aptly, that he was "a conservative man with a radical record." It was his courtesy which caused him to be reckoned conservative; it was the courage and strength of his convictions which found expression in positive action.

Mr. Rice was fond of social life and adorned it. He was President of the Central Club, the Commercial Club, the Episcopal Club, and the Art Club. He had a large circle of friends to whom he was warmly attached, and who loved him. His affectionate nature, which is remembered by those who knew him longest as noticeable in his boyhood, characterized him through life. He was a loyal friend, frank and sympathetic. He was a delightful companion and raconteur. Of how many a festive board, of how many a charmed circle of friends, of how many an excursion by rail or sea, has he not been the life! How vividly more than a few of you who are here to-night and who were his associates during recent years in every avenue of our political and social community, recall his mellifluous voice, his animated and riveting conversation, his kindly smile, his apt adaptation and anecdote. His keen sense of humor could not be doubted by any one who ever heard him describe the scene outside of Washington in 1861, when scores of congressmen who had ridden

out in hacks from the capital to the field of Bull Run, supposing it would be a pleasant afternoon's picnic to see the rebels whipped, fled back in wild haste and inextricable confusion.

In commercial life, his judgment and experience found ample scope upon numerous boards, as a director in trust companies, as President of the Board of Trade, and in other capacities. He was a trustee of the Institute of Technology, of the Art Museum of Boston, and of the Episcopal Theological School of Cambridge. He was for many years President of the Sailors' Home in Quincy, taking the warmest interest in its inmates, and universally beloved by them. He maintained an active interest in public affairs, in educational and reformatory questions, and in philanthropies; and readily lent the aid of his voice and presence to the furtherance of moral reforms.

Many are the noble words which we have degraded by the uses to which we have put them. Such a word is *politics*. Politics in its true sense is not self-seeking. It is not a scramble for public office or public plunder. It is not the looting of a public treasury nor the apportionment of postmasterships and salaried offices as the spoils of a party victory. It is not a matter of machines and slates and bosses, or of wire-pulling and underground manipulation. It is the science of government. It is the art of administering public affairs. It presupposes intelligence, sagacity, integrity, patriotism. The true politician is the man who is in public life, not for what he can make out of it, but for the good that he can do in it. It may justly

be said of Mr. RICE that his career exemplified the possibilities of a business man in politics, using the word in the proper sense. The conditions of business in this latter half of the nineteenth century have been revolutionized by steam and electricity, by the railroad, the telegraph, and the ocean cable. The stress and strain of competition exceed anything in the experience of men of an earlier and more tranquil time. Departments of business once distinct are aggregated into great combinations. Success or failure may pivot on the fraction of a cent in enormous transactions. It is a pace that kills. Small wonder is it that many business men, whether harassed or exhilarated by the exactions of modern competition, are at least so absorbed by them that they have little leisure for reading or study, and still less for participation in public affairs. But it is a distinguishing feature of Mr. RICE'S career that he found time for both; and it is perhaps not too much to say that to his public service he sacrificed the opportunity to have amassed a private fortune. The thirst for knowledge which led him, as a young man, to interrupt the commercial occupation upon which he had entered, in order that he might secure the advantages of a collegiate education, made him always a reader, a good student and a patient investigator. To this knowledge of books he added a wide knowledge of men and of affairs; and he brought these qualities as a preparation for the various public duties to which he was called; and with these he brought also a native sagacity and good judgment, executive ability of a high order, and an ever-ripening experience.

"Cities," Emerson has shrewdly said, "give us collision. A great part of our education is sympathetic and social." With the life of the modern city, especially with the life of this city of Boston, Mr. RICE was in warmest sympathy. He was interested in its development, eager for its prosperity. As the Londoner grows homesick, if long absent from the familiar sights and sounds of the great British metropolis; as the thoughts of the Parisian, however far his feet may wander, revert always to gay Paris: so it was true of Mr. RICE, that, wherever business or travel or the public service led him, it was about Boston that his affections clustered, and to Boston that his steps always returned. No one knew better than he the streets and buildings, the personal and historic associations, of this old city. No one was more zealous than he that it should be alert to the requirements of the time, and should hold its own in the expanding industrial and commercial activities of the nation. In his time he exemplified, what is emphatically the demand of the present hour, the rendering of the citizens' best service, whether in official or in private station, in the cause of good government. Nor could you, representative citizens of Boston, nor you, the members of its municipal government, pay the tribute of this occasion more heartily to any of the distinguished men who were his contemporaries than to him.

He served the country well, in trying times, in the halls of legislation; he served the state well as its chief magistrate; but it was to Boston that his first and most affectionate loyalty was given. It was as a

citizen of Boston that he would most have wished to be remembered. It is as a citizen of Boston, disinterested, high-minded, and patriotic, that we honor him to-night.

Yet, in this circle of those who knew and loved him, shall I not say that we are here, not alone, nor most, in formal tribute to the distinguished citizen, but even more in tender and personal appreciation of our sweet and loyal friend, the lovable man? He died July 22, 1895, almost rounding out his seventy-seventh year. He has gone to join the great company of the illustrious dead who still live. The kindly touch of nature makes the earth and the sky and the upper air so sweet, that the first emotion at a parting from them is that of gentle sorrow for him who takes his flight and for them from whom he wings it. But like the shadows of the summer night which are lost in the glory of the sunrise, it is a gentle sorrow which is lost in the larger life and immortality of enfranchised souls in heaven. His hand had hardly returned the last faint pressure of human love and friendship, his face had hardly answered back its last responsive smile on earth, ere the one was outstretched and the other kindling in happy greeting with the throng of welcoming spirits, whose faces and voices are as familiar to him and to us and to the streets of Boston as the morning sunshine, — the poet whose song was the exquisite blending of humor and hard sense, and to whom the shining dome of her State House was the hub of the universe, — the bard who tuned the harp of Erin to sing the praises of her Pilgrim and Puritan

founders, — her great orators who have made her name synonymous with the cause of human rights, — her ministers of the gospel of Christ, whose words have inspired and whose example has led her flocking children in the paths of lofty faith and generous philanthropy, — her judges of unsullied ermine who have kept firm her foundations of law and order, — her magistrates who have guided her political destinies, — her physicians who have brought healing to her sick, and forever alleviated physical pain, — her men of science who have made the forces of nature the servants of her people, — her merchant princes, always the contributors to her noblest enterprises and largest charities, — and all that great array, whom it is easier to fancy still with us than gone from our sight, and who with hand and heart and brain, with pen or press, with the artist's touch or the mechanic's skill, have helped make the last half of the now fast-closing century at once the ripest and the most pregnant of all time. Their names spring to our lips even as thus we recall them. So swift the shuttle flies 'twixt earth and heaven, that we ask ourselves who are here and who are there. It was but a day or two ago that the night shut down and hid that great organizer of trade who, with the magic of an Oriental dream, transformed in a twinkling of years the meagre counter of a petty shop into a magnificent emporium of domestic commerce, covering acres of space, employing hundreds of happy and grateful helpers, and constituting one of the great resources of the enterprise and charity of this metropolis, — and, later still, that venerable and beloved sweet singer in Israel, whose

hymns are the prayers of the people, and whose national song is the tribute of the American heart to our country and to him, wherever the foot of an American wanders, or the American flag floats. Our friend, the Governor, has but gone, as was his wont, from one goodly company to another. He was indeed with his own when last we saw him; yet was he ever more with his own than now, though we see him not. Is it that all these have only gone before?

Devene re locos lætos . . .
. . . sedesque beatas.

FINAL PROCEEDINGS

FINAL PROCEEDINGS.

APPENDIX A.

At a meeting of the Common Council, December 12, 1895, the following resolutions were introduced by Councilman Michael T. Callahan, of Ward 12, and unanimously adopted.

Resolved, That the thanks of the City Council be expressed to the Hon. John D. Long for the eloquent oration delivered by him before the city authorities at Music Hall, December 3, 1895, at the memorial services in honor of the late Alexander H. Rice, and that he be requested to furnish a copy of the same to the City Council for publication.

Resolved, That the thanks of the City Council be hereby expressed to Rev. Minot J. Savage for the poem prepared and delivered at the memorial exercises in honor of the late Alexander H. Rice, held under the auspices of the city at Music Hall on December 3, 1895.

Resolved, That the thanks of the City Council be hereby expressed to the Rev. Leighton Parks for officiating as

chaplain at the memorial services in honor of the late Alexander H. Rice, held under the auspices of the city at Music Hall, December 3, 1895.

The resolutions were unanimously concurred in by the Board of Aldermen at their meeting December 16, and were approved by the Mayor, December 19.

APPENDIX B.

The following letters were received, among others, in response to the invitation issued by the committee:

(1.)

Fifth Avenue Hotel,
New York, November 30, 1895.

Hon. Horace G. Allen, *Chairman of Committee:*

My dear Sir: I regret that absence from the Commonwealth will prevent my attending the memorial services in honor of Alexander H. Rice to be held on the evening of December 3. I should have been glad by my presence to testify to my strong personal regard for Governor Rice as well as my respect for his distinguished public services.

Thanking the Committee of Arrangements, through you, for their courteous invitation,

I am,

Very truly yours,

ROGER WOLCOTT.

(2.)

HORACE G. ALLEN, ESQ., *Chairman of Committee:*

DEAR SIR: I accept the kind invitation of the City Council of Boston to attend the memorial services in honor of ALEXANDER H. RICE on Tuesday evening, December 3, 1895.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM H. HAILE.

SPRINGFIELD, MASS., November 29, 1895.

(3.)

GROTON, November 28, 1895.

MY DEAR SIR: As I am under an engagement to be in Washington on the third of December, I can only express my regret that I am unable to accept the invitation of the City Council of Boston to be present at the memorial services in honor of ALEXANDER H. RICE. I cherish my acquaintance with Governor RICE, and his long and honorable service to the city of Boston, the state, and the nation entitles his name and memory to the highest consideration.

Very truly,

GEORGE S. BOUTWELL.

TO HORACE G. ALLEN, ESQ.,
Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements.

(4.)

BOSTON, December 2, 1895.

HORACE G. ALLEN, ESQ.:

MY DEAR SIR: I thank you very much for your kind remembrance in sending me an invitation to the exercises in Music Hall, to-morrow night, in honor of the late

ex-Governor RICE. I deeply regret, owing to the condition of my health, my inability to be present on this very interesting occasion.

Very truly yours,

WILLIAM CLAFLIN.

(5.)

CHICOPEE, MASS., November 30, 1895.

HON. HORACE G. ALLEN, *Boston, Mass.:*

DEAR SIR: I beg leave to express my sincere acknowledgments of the courtesy shown me by yourself and your associates of the Committee of Arrangements for the RICE memorial, and beg leave to say that I am constrained to decline the invitation by reason of engagements which will render it impossible for me to be absent from this part of the State at the time.

For the subject of the eulogy I had the most sincere and lasting respect. For the orator who will address the assembly at that time I entertain high regard, and it is with regret that I must forego the satisfaction of hearing him at the proposed memorial exercises.

I am,

Very truly yours,

GEORGE D. ROBINSON.

(6.)

NEW YORK, December 3, 1895.

TO THE HON. JOHN D. LONG, THE PRESIDENT OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF BOSTON, AND TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS, *Music Hall, Boston, Mass.:*

GENTLEMEN: The invitation to the memorial services of my husband, the late ALEXANDER H. RICE, reached me only

this afternoon, through an error of my agent, or I should certainly have been present. I beg to thank you for your courtesy, and tender the grateful sentiments which such a distinguished recognition of the late Governor Rice's eminent services awakens in the hearts of his sorrowing family.

ANGIE E. RICE.

(7.)

Canton, Mass., November 28, 1895.

To Hon. Horace G. Allen, *Chairman, City Council, Boston, Mass.:*

Dear Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of an invitation to a memorial service in honor of Alexander H. Rice, at Music Hall, December 3. The Fifty-Fourth Congress convenes on the second, and my public duties will require my presence in the House of Representatives at the date of the meeting. I desire, however, to express my very high appreciation of Alexander H. Rice; he was one of God's noblemen. I have known him since my boyhood. In his death Massachusetts has lost one of her first citizens, every good cause has lost a champion and friend, and it is eminently appropriate and proper that the city of Boston should do honor to his memory, and pronounce words of eulogium. I am glad the committee have been able to secure the eloquent and silver-tongued ex-Governor Long for that service. I very much regret my inability to be present.

Thanking you for the honor of the invitation,

I remain, very respectfully yours,

ELIJAH A. MORSE.

(8.)

113 East Thirty-sixth Street, N.Y.

James L. Hillard, Esq.:

My dear Sir: Owing to the extreme illness of my wife I shall be unable to accept the kind invitation of the Council to be present at the memorial services to the Hon. Alexander H. Rice on December 3.

Thanking the Council for this thoughtful invitation,

I remain,

Very truly yours,

LOYALL FARRAGUT.

November 30, 1895.